

THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF

THE UNITED FARMERS of ALBERTA

Vol. II.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, FEBRUARY 15, 1923

No. 3

A Plan to Enable Locals to Help Themselves

Development of Spirit of Self-Reliance and of Team Work Among the Locals Will Be Source of Strength to the Organization

By R. O. German, Director for Red Deer

With the idea of inaugurating some practical scheme to enable the Locals to help themselves, the delegates from Red Deer Federal Constituency held a round table conference on two consecutive evenings in Calgary during Convention week, in the Plaza. Full advantage was taken of the splendid opportunity to discuss many matters of mutual interest.

Discussion centred mostly on matters of field organization. It was pointed out that our financial condition would not permit of any elaborate and expensive system, whereby an organizer was kept travelling over the district, and that if the maximum results were to be achieved, the Locals themselves must practice more team work and shoulder a generous share of the burden of field organization. If the spirit of self-reliance could be firmly established in our Locals, it would be a tremendous source of strength to our organization.

Acadia Proposals Presented

Acadia Provincial Riding, at a similar conference, previously held, had advocated certain schemes which were presented at the conference of Red Deer delegates. After a general discussion and exchange of ideas, a rough draft of the main ideas involved was made, and a small committee appointed to consider details of the plan. The result of this committee's deliberations was handed to me in skeleton form by the chairman, J. E. Brown of Lauderdale, with instructions to give the plan publicity at an early date.

Six distinct ideas are tabulated by number for convenient reference. Numbers one and two are somewhat intricate in their nature but any one of the ideas can be carried out independently of the others.

No. 1—EXCHANGE OF SPEAKERS

With a view to creating more fellowship and closer unity between Locals, it is suggested that each Local be prepared to send two of its members to visit four other Locals at different times during the year, for the purpose of discussing various matters of mutual interest and to give a talk on some subject of their own choosing. The whole four visits need not necessarily be made by the same two members. The visited Local will, of course, supply the balance of the program for the evening. To avoid confusion and possible overlapping it is further suggested that the schedule of interchange be arranged by the various Provincial Constituency Boards who, it is hoped, will act promptly and issue notice of schedule to the Locals in their respective Ridings at the earliest possible date. All Locals interested should get in touch with their Provincial Boards immediately.

The article by R. O. German, Director for Red Deer, printed on this page, has been prepared in response to a request made by the new Central Board, at its first meeting. It outlines a definite plan to enable Locals to help themselves, which was considered at a meeting of delegates from the Red Deer Federal Constituency held during Convention week. The plan includes proposals for exchange of speakers, for series of debates and rallies, and for a funding of available information on co-operative enterprise in the Constituency. While prepared in the first place for the benefit of the Locals in Red Deer Constituency, this article will no doubt prove of interest to the membership and to the various Constituency Associations throughout the Province.

No. 2—SERIES OF DEBATES

To promote the development of leadership and a close study of current subjects, it is suggested that a series of debates be carried out somewhat along the lines followed in Manitoba. This idea covers a period of about twenty months, and by a process of elimination will discover the trophy-winning debating team in Red Deer Federal Constituency before the end of 1924. The first step is for each Local to pick its best team. It will be the duty of each Director on the various Provincial Constituency Boards to make the necessary arrangements for an eliminating debating contest in his or her particular directorate, in which all the Locals within said directorate, who have chosen teams, will compete and the winning team be selected before Dec. 31st, 1923.

Constituency Championship

These winners will then compete for a Provincial Constituency championship during the early part of 1924, under the supervision of the Provincial Constituency Board. A suitable trophy could be awarded the winners. Now if each Provincial Constituency championship contest could be decided by April 1st, 1924, or earlier, then the field of contestants would be narrowed down to seven teams, provided each Provincial Constituency in Red Deer participated. During the summer and early fall these seven teams will compete for the Federal Constituency championship under supervision of the Federal Board, the final debate to take place at the Annual Convention of the Red Deer Federal Association, when the winning team could be awarded a grand championship trophy.

Any Local intending to participate in this contest can secure valuable information regarding carrying on and judging debates and also a list of subjects for debate by writing the Department of Extension, University of Alberta, Edmonton. Where the subject for debate can not be mutually agreed upon between Local teams, it is suggested that the decision be left to the Provincial Constituency Director for that district.

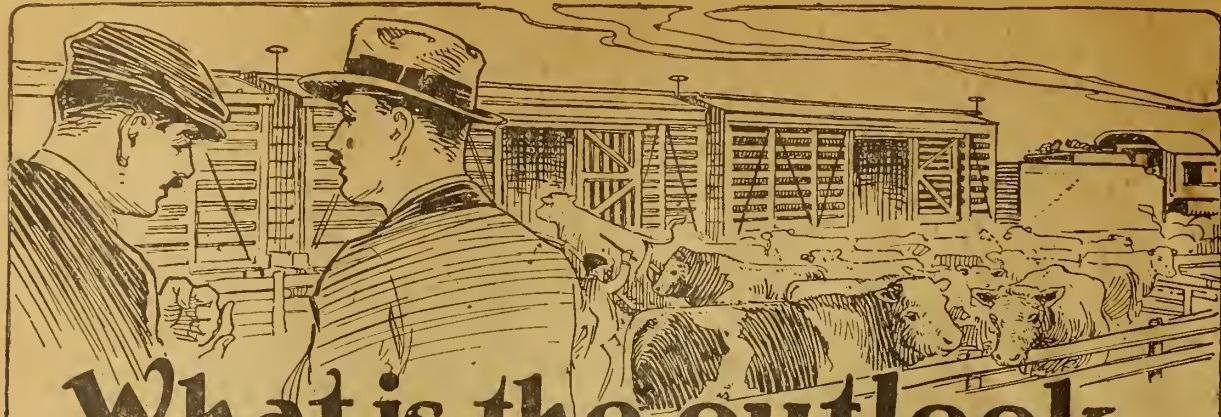
No. 3—SERIES OF RALLIES

To further the social side of our organization it is suggested that U. F. A. rallies be held at convenient times and places in each Provincial Constituency, to which outside speakers of prominence could be invited. I think this idea if put into practice in a proper way would prove very popular. For instance, these rallies should not take the form of an annual sports day where the thunder of bucking horses and brass bands make even conversation



R. O. GERMAN

(Continued on page 14)



What is the outlook for the Canadian Cattle Raiser?

WHEN a large percentage of steers are sold on Winnipeg market at below \$4.00 a hundred-weight and at Toronto at less than \$5.50, naturally a farmer finds it hard to show a profit. What are the reasons for these low prices? What is the outlook for the Canadian cattle industry? What steps should a farmer take to ensure better returns?

Canada Has Three Markets—All Demand Better Quality Beef Cattle

THE BRITISH MARKET

With the embargo removed, Canada can ship Store cattle to Great Britain. The British farmers are ready to feed. This market imports about 300,000 store cattle and 400,000 fat cattle a year. By supplying the right type and quality, Canada should be able to secure a good share of this business.

Store cattle for British trade should average about 1100 lbs. They should be two-year-olds or long yearlings of the best type, well-fleshed, with the breeding necessary to take on proper finish. The only way to get such cattle is by using pure bred sires. (Steers for the British market should be dehorned.)

This market will continue to take finished cattle of 1200 lbs. or over. They must be well-bred beef cattle, with the form, quality and finish to dress out to a high percentage—light, trashy, common cattle will find no demand. Three and four-year-old unfinished cattle will not return a profit.

The influence of this market will be felt:—

1. From the middle of March to the end of May—on winter fed cattle of medium weight to go on British pasture.
2. In May and June—on well-finished, grain-fed cattle for immediate slaughter.
3. August to November—on grass-finished cattle from Western and Eastern Canada.

Good Sires, Proper Feeding and Wise Marketing are Necessary If Canadian Farmers are to Make Money from Beef Cattle

A survey of these three markets emphasizes one fact. There is no demand except for QUALITY cattle. Farmers who want to make money this year should follow these suggestions:—

1. Any cattle which went on feed last fall at weights below 1100 lbs. should be finished to market in Britain in April and May.
2. To achieve quality and early maturity, a good pure bred bull is essential. With prices at present so low, it will pay most farmers to buy a good bull now. Otherwise, make arrangements now for a pure bred bull this spring. If there is no good bull near you, the Department has policies which may be of help to you and will give you full information on request. In the British market, our competition is with superior breeding from British farms, from Ireland, and with beef from the Argentine, a country which has outstripped the western world in its use of pure bred sires. Canada must use every worthwhile bull of the beef breeds to full capacity in 1923.

THE AMERICAN MARKET

Despite the tariff, stockers and feeders are still crossing the border in considerable numbers. With a tariff of 1½ to 2c per pound, only good quality young cattle will net the producer any real profit. A steer selling at 3c may pay the same rate of tariff as a steer selling at 6c. Likewise it is only well-bred cattle—the kind that make substantial gain on proper feeding—which will make a profit when sold either as finished cattle or as dressed beef for export.

THE HOME MARKET

Our domestic market is exactly in line with the demand of the British Market. The class of animal that gets top price and nets most profit is the well-finished steer, matured early, and not too heavy (around 1200 lbs.). The biggest buyers say that only one out of five cattle coming on the market are good butcher type—full in the loin, with well-rounded hip, small shank, short neck, and evenly covered with fat. If Canada produced more of this high-class butcher type, the home consumption of beef would increase. Keener demand would result in better prices.

3. Dehorn your cattle. This season's calf crop should be dehorned in a wholesale way. Use caustic potash or lye. Dehorn your present steers—before hot weather comes. Use clippers or saw. Dehorned cattle make better gains in weight, bring from 50c to \$2.00 more per hundred, sell more readily, ship better, are more contented and more easily handled than horned cattle.

4. Bring cattle to early maturity. Quick turnover is the surest road to profits. It is good business to get cattle to market as long yearlings and two-year-olds.

5. Market your cattle at the right time. It is a striking fact that HALF the cattle sold in Canada each year are put on the market in the four Fall months. Suitable unfinished stock should be carried over for winter finishing. A spread of 1½ to 2c a pound between Fall and Spring prices is enough to warrant winter finishing. The British market should make winter finishing doubly profitable.

Six Factors in Profitable Beef Cattle Raising:

1. Use only Pure-Bred Bulls.
2. Dehorn your Cattle.
3. Bring to Early Maturity.
4. Sell as Few Cattle as Possible in Fall.
5. Finer Finishing Pays.
6. Spread Your Marketing.

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CIRCULATION

Average paid circulation	
Average for six months	21,446

THE U.F.A.

Published on the 1st and 15th of the Month by
THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

Lougheed Building
CALGARY - ALBERTA

Editor:
W. NORMAN SMITH

Business Manager:
H. HIGGINBOTHAM

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Vol. 2.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, FEBRUARY 15, 1928

No. 3

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EDITORIAL

While the Annual Convention did not adopt any resolution concerning the elected members, emphasis was laid in the discussion, on the service which they have given to their constituents. It is unquestionably true that at least the great majority of the farmers' elected representatives have given infinitely more attention to constituency duties than any previous body of legislators has done in this Province.

This service the people have a right to expect, and attendance at the session of Parliament or the Legislature is only one of many duties which a member, conscientiously devoted to the interests of the people who elected him, must perform. The tradition that a member's principal function is to vote "Yes" and "No" upon measures presented for his consideration in the House or Assembly, and to become active in his constituency only on the eve of an election, is outworn.

"The U. F. A." recently obtained from one of the Federal representatives an outline of his year's work. This included a session of four months, time spent in study of public questions, a voluminous correspondence, and a tour of 3,000 miles through his constituency, at a cost in cash of \$1,000. In one period of two months he addressed 63 meetings. In the whole period of twelve months he was able to spend exactly three weeks at work on his farm.

The member represented one of the larger constituencies in the Province, but other members, both in the Federal House and the Provincial Assembly, for the most part have given more time to the service of their constituents than had ever been given by rural representatives prior to 1921. On the whole Alberta has never before been represented by so many members who have trained themselves so assiduously for the tasks of legislation. This is the natural and necessary corollary of the democratic organization of an alert citizenship.

* * *

Subject to ratification by the United States Senate, the British and American Governments have come to an agreement for the funding of the British debt, and its payment over a term of years. This agreement will do little to solve the problem of the European war debts.

There are two methods by which the European nations may repay their debts to the United States—in gold, or in goods. But complaint is made that business is already suffering as a result of a surfeit of gold in the republic, which now contains almost one-half of the world's supply. To receive payment of European debts in goods over a period of forty years the United States would have to import annually in excess of its imports, goods to the value of one billion dollars.

There is no method suggested by any of the more commonly accepted financial authorities by which payment can be made without ruining United States industry. Possibly an impartial inquiry would reveal means by which the creditor nation may receive such enrichment without being industrially ruined in the process, but this would involve a fundamental readjustment of the financial system. Rather than face an inquiry it is probable that the financial powers will finally advise cancellation of a major portion of the debt.

Observing that emigration from Canada last year exceeded the immigration of new settlers, the Manitoba Free Press remarks that "this is a scandalous state of affairs in view of this country's dire need of more population and the favorable openings which it affords to immigrants of the right type." Judging by the figures, the most "favorable opening" for many of our citizens has been found in emigration. If the scandal of emigration can be ended by the creation of tolerable conditions on the land, immigration will largely take care of itself. The most powerful immigration agency that Canada can establish is a prosperous agriculture.

As "The Veteran", the official organ of the G. W. V. A., recently stated: "It is useless to invite any man from outside our borders, whether he be English, Norse, American, Slav, or of any other nationality, to settle in Canada when many thousands of those who have come in the past are dissatisfied and are seeking new places to settle. The greatest immigration agency is not the staff of immigration officials, or the steamship companies, but the satisfied immigrant who writes to his folks back home about his improved economic and social position."

* * *

Owing to pressure upon space it has been impossible to include in this issue an account of an interesting new departure inaugurated during Convention week in Calgary, by the delegates from the Acadia district, who at a banquet at the Plaza on Monday, January 15th, discussed their own district affairs, and formulated definite plans to promote co-operation between the Locals during the coming year. During Convention week the custom of holding evening banquets, between the time of the afternoon adjournment of the main Convention and its re-assembling in the evening, became general, delegates from most of the directorates conducting sectional meetings in this way. Much business was transacted, and an excellent opportunity was presented for the delegates from neighboring localities to make each others' acquaintance. The precedent established this year is likely to be followed in the future.

* * *

The Germans are countering the French invasion of the Ruhr by a policy of passive resistance, and have made the expenses of occupation so high to the invaders and the practical results in coal deliveries so insignificant, that the economic stability of France is seriously endangered. Apart altogether from the wisdom or unwisdom of the French method of collecting reparations (the position of France is perhaps not always stated fairly in the press of her late English-speaking allies), the new German method of resisting invasion is an interesting experiment. Armed aggression has been as costly to the aggressor as to the invaded people.

* * *

The Canadian wheat crop reached a new high record of four hundred million bushels in 1922. And the farmers of Canada reached the lowest economic level which they have known in recent times. Greater production has proved no panacea for the evils of depression.

* * *

Even the small group of members who have constituted themselves the opposition to the U. F. A. Government in the Legislature have been seeking to avoid the appearance of opposing the Government on the question of the Wheat Board. This indicates the strength of the demand for the Board among the Alberta electorate.

* * *

"It is hard not to blame individual men and groups when the affairs of a nation go badly. It is so much easier to change men than systems. The former satisfies every instinct in the fierce, suspicious hearts of men, the latter demands the bleakest of intellectual efforts. The former justifies the 'healthy, wholesome relief' of rioting; the latter necessitates self-control."—H. G. Wells.

Annual Convention Debates the Problems of Finance and Credit

The problems of finance and credit occupied a prominent place in the discussions of the U. F. A. Annual Convention. Two resolutions passed by the Convention held a year ago, were re-endorsed unanimously. The first of these called for the establishment of a Federal Loan Department on a plan definitely laid down in the resolution; the other asked the Alberta Government to obtain a charter under the Federal Bank Act, and to establish a bank in which it would retain a controlling interest, all the rights and privileges given under the Act to be exercised by a commission of five members. These resolutions were submitted by an informal committee of delegates interested in banking and financial questions, as consolidations of all the resolutions on these subjects which had been sent in.

The Government Position

A third resolution, submitted by the committee, asked the Government to obtain authority to issue Provincial bonds to liquidate farmers' debts under a funding plan. It was defeated by a considerable majority after an address by Hon. J. E. Brownlee, Attorney-General. Mr. Brownlee discussed the present financial position of the Province, and appealed to the delegates to place faith in the Government for another year at least, as the Government was doing all it could to meet a difficult and absolutely unprecedented condition. He declared that as a result of the passing of certain resolutions by the Convention, and possibly of this third resolution, the Government might find itself unable to carry on the affairs of the Province for another year. It would be necessary to raise \$13,000,000 this year by floating bonds in the money markets of the world, solely for the purpose of replacing existing borrowings. It would be some time, in his opinion, before any one Province could alone initiate credit reform.

Loan Department and Government Bank

The resolutions calling for the establishment of a bank by the Alberta Government, and of a Federal Loan Department by the Dominion Government, were printed in full on pages 85 and 86 of the last Annual Report. It was proposed that the loan department should issue full legal tender notes (secured by a first lien on the assets and services of the people of the Dominion) to meet the business requirements of the country, these notes to be loaned to the people direct at cost, on the security of Federal, Provincial, urban and rural municipal bonds, and improved, inhabited and used farms.

In moving the adoption of this resolution, C. East, of Vermilion, said that the object of the committee was to "get the people to think on banking and currency questions. If you will do that", he added, "the issue can safely be left in your hands." John Egger, of Lake Thelma Local, cited important figures relative to the war debt and the gold standard. C. H. MacFarquhar, T. Partridge of Monitor, and C. H. Axelson further contributed to the discussion.

Monopoly and Interest

"Out of the privilege of note issue and circulation", said George Bevington, in

A brief statement of the action taken by the Annual Convention on the resolutions on Banking and Credit questions was given in the last issue of "The U.F.A.". In view of the important place which these subjects occupied in the Convention program, the main points in the discussion are dealt with as fully as space will permit in this issue.

the course of an address in which he discussed the significance of each of the resolutions, "is built up the whole structure of credit." The two great evils of the system, he declared, were the monopolistic privileges granted to bankers, and interest. Where any portion of interest represented profit, it was as impossible finally to settle it as for a man to rise from the ground without mechanical means. Interest had built up everybody's debts, and brought the world to its present position. If these two evils could be eliminated, Canada would have the best money system in the world.

No Legal Difficulties

Going on to deal with the banking resolution, Mr. Bevington said there were no legal or constitutional difficulties in the way of the Government's obtaining a charter for a bank, though there might be some question of policy. After obtaining a charter the Province would require \$250,000 to buy stock in the new concern, this to be turned back to the treasury board until such time as a permanent institution was established. All of the money would then be returned to the bank, with the exception of \$5,000 retained in the circulation redemption fund on deposit. The Government-owned bank would have the privilege of issuing at once, \$250,000 in new money as a minimum amount, there being no fixed maximum at present. Mr. Bevington explained that it was in this way that the present banks came into being, and suggested that the Alberta Government elected by the people should be as competent to hire servants to look after a department as the Ottawa Government was to allow people in Europe or elsewhere to perform the function of banking for them. The note issue of the new bank would be the same kind of instrument as the issue of the present banks, guaranteed by the same security, and further, the Provincial Government, through this bank, would be issuing notes upon the whole of the assets of the Province, of which the bank assets were a part. "You would then," said the speaker, "have the whole of your assets of the country behind your bank note, and the banks have only a portion of the country's assets behind their notes."

Mr. Bevington said that the only complete moratorium ever adopted in this country was passed in 1914, in the interests of the banks, when gold payment was suspended, and the banks were empowered to print sufficient money to pay all their obligations. Perhaps they did not go the limit in this respect, but the fact was they got relief in 24 hours. Yet it was said today that if the people went into the banking business there would be inflation. Inflation was justified in 1914 because there was a national crisis pending. But the crisis

today was more than national. It was international, and more pressing than in 1914.

With reference to the resolution on a Federal Loan Department, Mr. Bevington pointed out that the banks can buy mortgages, bonds, grain receipts, etc., and deposit them in the treasury board in exchange for Dominion note issues. This had been done, at the highest point, to the extent of \$311,000,000. The Federal Loan Department could commence to take these securities directly from the people, and issue Dominion notes in exchange. "We could then", said the speaker, "commence to refund loans that exist today, and put them on a non-interest bearing basis, even though we charged 8 or 9 or 10 per cent, because every time we paid interest we would pay it to ourselves."

The banks were privileged, he said, through the checking process to pyramid loans on their own note issue anywhere from four to thirteen times. For every dollar of this description that they had in their hands, they might multiply loans from four to thirteen times, all these drawing interest.

Answering W. D. Trego, who asked where the Government would get money to buy stock in the proposed bank, Mr. Bevington said that out of the \$28,000,000 budget, the small sum of \$250,000 could be taken without being noticed. After the establishment of the bank more money could be brought into the Province without bringing any more debts.

The Defeated Resolution

The defeated resolution set forth that the present indebtedness of the farmers to loan companies and banks cannot be redeemed if left to individuals, and that the Drought Relief Act does not adequately meet the situation. It asked that the Act be continued in operation, and that in addition the Provincial and Federal authorities, by order-in-council or legislation, absolutely safeguard the financial position of the individual until the farmers' debts can be funded. It further asked the Alberta Government to obtain the authority of the Legislature to issue Provincial bonds sufficient to liquidate the debts under a funding plan; and to negotiate with the Federal Government for the issue of Dominion Treasury notes to take care of the Provincial bonds, these notes to be loaned to debtors at cost.

Burden of Debts

William N. Merriam, who moved the adoption of this resolution, stated that 20,000 of the 80,000 farmers in Alberta were insolvent. Judgments against farmers in Macleod judicial district totalled \$902,855, in Lethbridge \$1,500,000, in Taber \$500,000, in Medicine Hat \$1,907,625, grand total \$4,873,580. On this the interest at 5 per cent was piling up at the rate of \$243,690 every year. The live accounts in the hands of the Drought Relief Commissioner totalled 3,000, and the indebtedness would run to \$5,000 per quarter section, or a total of \$30,000,000, interest at the rate of 10 per cent on this being \$3,000,000 a year. Government feed and seed liens, etc.,

(Continued on page 10)

A Diary of the Annual Convention of the United Farmers of Alberta

PART TWO

President Re-elected by Acclamation
 Amid much enthusiasm President Wood was re-elected by acclamation, at the opening of the Wednesday afternoon session. The following names had been placed in nomination, all, however, withdrawing: George Bevington, C. H. Harris and Rice Sheppard. In a brief address President Wood called attention to the increasing responsibilities of the organization. As the numbers had increased it had been decided to cover new fields. In placing members in the House of Commons a great new responsibility had been undertaken; while in the Provincial Government was the biggest business in the Province. "It is going to take the best thought that all of us can give to carry out the tasks we have undertaken", said Mr. Wood. "Criticism is good, but it must be based on mature thought." President Wood pointed out that in the United States a great sum of money had been wasted owing to plans of co-operative marketing having been inadequately thought out. He stated that when the plans for the creation of a Wheat Pool were asked for by the farmers in Western Canada there was not a dollar available. "Before you can do these things," said he, "you've got to have money to hire brains. It is our duty to see, first that necessary money is provided, and secondly that it is spent wisely." The President called attention to the recent defeat, in the Calgary by-election, of the forces of the two political parties combined, parties which for generations had been irreconcilable. "Before our fight is over," he added, "we have got to fight the combined forces of partyism."

H. E. G. H. Scholefield, the Vice-President for 1922, was elected Vice-President for the present year, the delegates making the selection by the use of the single transferable vote. The other names placed in nomination were: George Bevington, Winterburn; G. E. Roose, Camrose; C. H. Harris, Oyen; C. S. Stevens, Sunnibend; H. C. McDaniel, Whitchurch; Mrs. R. B. Gunn, Paradise Valley; S. S. Sears, Nanton; R. O. Germun, Foreman; H. S. Simpson, Okotoks; M. R. Matheson, Granum; W. J. Jackman, Bremner; Rice Sheppard, South Edmonton; A. F. Aitken, Moyerton; C. H. Axelson, Bray Lake; A. R. Brown, Westlock; J. G. Clark, Irma; A. Rafn, Bon Accord; J. Lewis Smith, Clivale; W. Skinner, Riverton; John Egger, Sullivan Lake; Frank Leavitt, Glenwoodville. All withdrew, with the exception of Messrs. Bevington, Scholefield, Roose, Harris, Stevens, McDaniel and Rice Sheppard.

The Association Deficit

The resolution quoted in the last issue, in which Locals of the U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. and District and Constituency Associations and members were asked to contribute towards the extinction of the deficit, was discussed at some length. G. E. Roose pointing out that when money had to be borrowed, there was always a danger that the borrowers would be regarded as the servants of the lenders. "We believe", he said, "that there is a sufficient number of loyal members who will not want to see our banner trailing in the dust." A delegate from Big Val-

The first part of the Diary of the Annual Convention was printed in the February 1st issue of "The U.F.A." In this issue the outline of proceedings at the Convention is concluded.

ley declared that in his district, where there had been no crop for two years, the sum of \$175, the proceeds of a picnic, had been donated to the Provincial organization. Col. Robinson of Munson, referring to the terrible suffering in many farming districts, said that the only hope for the future lay in what could be accomplished by the United Farmers themselves through their organization.

John W. Ward, secretary of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, presented a detailed report of the activities of the Council, and of the affiliated Provincial organizations, dealing with the fight for lower freight rates, the Wheat Board and other matters. The report, which contained much useful information, is too long to be given in detail here.

"United Farmers of Canada"

Some discussion followed upon a resolution calling for the creation of a Council of United Farmers, C. H. Harris declaring that the farmers could not afford to allow the commercial organizations to pay for the upkeep of the Council. Rice Sheppard thought Alberta should be 100 per cent organized before other plans were considered. President Wood, appealed to in this matter, said that some rumor had been afloat that the C. C. A.

had decided not to take any responsibility for political organization in the future. This was hardly a correct statement. The commercial companies, however, were not in politics, and it had been suggested that the representatives of the farmers' organizations should meet separately, before or after the meeting of the Council. The commercial organizations had got too far from the primary organizations in some respects, but he was not sure how improvement was going to be effected. The Convention adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas the growth of the farmers' movement has now reached national proportions; and whereas there is great need for a body which will democratically co-ordinate all our Federal political, social, educational and economic activities;

"Therefore, be it resolved that we are in favor of an organization that shall include representatives from the various farmers' Provincial organizations and we herewith authorize our Executive to enter into negotiations with these organizations with a view to forming an association to be known as 'The United Farmers of Canada.'"

After an address by O. D. Hill, of Melville, on the Hudson Bay Railway, the Convention adopted a resolution urging the Dominion Government to take the necessary steps to have the line completed, together with terminal elevators and other accessories.

(Continued on page 12)

Determination to Work for Quality Feature of Dairy Convention

By Nelson S. Smith, M.L.A.

The Annual Convention of Alberta Dairymen's Association, recently held in Calgary, sounded a note of stability in the industry and a determination to work for quality in product with a broadening market.

The convention is made up of Sections which had their separate meetings on January 23rd, when business relative to the Sections was transacted. January 24th then saw the joint convention of the Sections in session. Further, the delegates from the Western Provinces met in convention to discuss general dairying problems.

The Producers' Section

The business of the Producers' Section was taken up by reports and resolutions. The report of the year's business and progress shows a very marked development in quality and quantity. During the convention in 1922, held in Edmonton, a resolution was passed asking for the elimination of cream stations which was acted upon by the Legislature passing an amendment to the Dairymen's Act, forcing all stations to cease operation. It was felt during that convention that the sudden falling off in our "Special Quality butter" from 56.3 per cent "Special" in 1917 to 7.7 per cent in 1921, was due largely to this cause. One season's operation without the cream station has substantiated this claim, the

quality improving from the low point to 28.8 per cent "Special."

Improvement in Quality and Output

With a lower market of approximately 2 cents per pound, basis Montreal, in 1922, as compared with 1921, the producers have received about six cents a pound more. Interpreted in dollars and cents quality and overhead elimination means approximately \$250,000.

The volume output in the Province increased too by 2,500,000 pounds, due largely to elimination of the "star boarder" from the herd and more care being given to the remaining herd.

The year just passed, it was felt, was the best from a real educational standpoint that we as producers have yet experienced. It is hoped that the education for efficiency and quality in the industry and product may proceed.

Co-operative Marketing

The convention dealt with all dairy resolutions presented to the Annual U. F. A. Convention. The resolution dealing with co-operative marketing was passed and a committee of three were appointed to gather information and submit a plan as soon as possible. The committee is as follows: N. S. Smith, Olds; N. S. Clark, Didsbury; and T. Noble Daysland. This committee will work

(Continued on page 8)

The United Farm Women of Alberta in Convention

By Miss J. B. Kidd

PART TWO

Educational resolutions considered by the Convention at the opening session on January 17th, asked that the High School curriculum be revised so that students would be required to carry a fewer number of subjects; that scripture reading be made compulsory in the schools; that school reports on pupils' work to parents be made compulsory; that rural school administration be placed under a larger unit; and that the clause, requesting that 25% of the ratepayers vote in favor of the establishment of a school district before such action can be taken, be struck out of the school ordinance.

Monthly Reports to Parents

Of the educational resolutions only one was adopted by the Convention: "That we ask the Provincial Government to make it compulsory for teachers to furnish monthly reports to parents of pupils attending rural schools." It was felt that the present ruling whereby teachers are permitted to devote one half-hour to religious instruction should meet the need for Bible teaching in schools. The Convention was of the opinion that the request for revision in the High School course of studies was being efficiently dealt with by the committee appointed for that purpose.

The larger unit in the administration of schools was considered with favor by many delegates, but it was decided that the matter should be referred to the Locals for further study. It was pointed out that the school ordinance provides for the formation of a school district when it can be established to the satisfaction of the Minister of Education that one is necessary, whether 25% of the ratepayers agree or not.

Juniors Show Excellent Progress

Reports from the Convenor on Young People's Work, Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser, and from the Junior Branch Secretary, Miss Eva Peel, showed excellent progress on the part of the Junior Branch, 147 Locals being in existence and the membership being approximately 1,200. Mrs. Fraser's report described the week spent by representatives of Junior Locals at the University Week for Farm Young People, held in June in Edmonton. She closed her report with a plea that the Senior Locals realize their responsibility towards these future citizens of our Province. At 4:30 the Convention adjourned to enjoy a reception held in the Convention hall, and arranged through the kindness of the Calgary Local, U. F. W. A.

Owing to the large amount of business to be transacted, it was found necessary to hold an evening session. Prof. Ottewell, Director of the Department of Extension, University of Alberta, spoke briefly on the short course in economics to be held in Edmonton and on University Week for Farm Young People. Miss Jessie F. Montgomery, Librarian of the Department of Extension, gave a very informative address on the work of the University Library. The addresses of Mrs. McNeil, representing the Women's

U. F. W. A. OFFICERS FOR 1923	
President ...	Mrs. M. L. Sears, Nanton
First Vice-President ...	Mrs. R. B. Gunn, Paradise Valley.
Second Vice-President ...	Mrs. B. F. Kiser, High River.
Secretary ...	Miss J. B. Kidd, Calgary.
Directors	
Battle River	Mrs. J. E. Dowler, Veteran.
Bow River .	Mrs. Mary Puncke, Stone- law.
East Calgary ..	Mrs. L. L. Schole- field, Crossfield.
West Calgary ..	Mrs. H. W. Wood, Carstairs.
East Edmonton ..	Mrs. A. H. Warr, Waskatenau
West Edmonton (North) ..	Mrs Jean Field, Kinuso
West Edmonton (South) ..	Mrs. E. H. Ethridge, Rosslington.
Lethbridge ..	Mrs. A. M. Merkley, Ma- grath.
Macleod ..	Mrs. H. Macleod, Mazeppe.
Medicine Hat ..	Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser, Rollinson.
Red Deer	Mrs. R. Price, Stettler.
Strathcona	Mrs. W. Ross, Milllet.
Victoria ..	Mrs. E. Hallam, Sedgewick.

Section of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers, and Miss Amy J. Roe, representing the Grain Growers' Guide, were thoroughly enjoyed by the delegates. The final business of the evening session was nominations for U. F. W. A. president. Mrs. R. B. Gunn, Mrs. M. L. Sears and Mrs. R. Clarke Fraser were nominated. Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Gunn withdrew and Mrs. Sears was elected by acclamation.

Mrs. Gunn and Mrs. B. F. Kiser of High River, were elected first and second vice-presidents, respectively, by acclamation.

The Thursday morning session was occupied by the report on Public Health and by the address of Miss Jessie MacMillan, Director, Women's Extension Service, Department of Agriculture. Both address and report occasioned much interesting discussion.

In presenting the report on Public Health, on Thursday morning, Mrs. M. L. Sears, Convenor of the committee, expressed the opinion that the question of public health should be given attention before everything else, since scientists claimed that the progress of a people was largely dependent upon the health of that people. Much was being done to provide accommodation for those afflicted with ill health in each of the three Prairie Provinces. It was not necessary, however, to depend on outside forces to maintain the standard of public health. The hope of a healthier race lay in our children. Proper food, poise, self control and high ideals were essential in the environment of every child and could be found in the tenement as well as in the home of wealth. The report contained much very instructive material on the value of diet and other health measures. In conclusion, Mrs. Sears very aptly remarked: "How much can all the public care in the world help us if, as individuals, we shirk our responsibilities in obeying the simple fundamental rules of health that even a child can understand."

Women's Extension Service

A feature of the morning session was the address by Miss Jessie MacMillan, Director of the Women's Extension Service, Alberta Department of Agriculture, who gave a comprehensive outline of the work being done by the service. Miss MacMillan stated that the problems which came to the service department touched everything from birth to death. The field work consisted chiefly of

(Continued on page 9)

N. Dakota Studies the Alberta Farmers' Plan

"The Non-Partizan League in North Dakota is governed as any other political party is governed", stated Charles H. Harris on his return recently from a visit to the United States, where he spoke at various meetings during the fall election campaign, explaining the plan of democratic action which the U. F. A. has adopted. He stated that while he is sure that A. C. Townley is trying to rule in the interests of the people (the former boss, Alex. McKenzie, says Mr. Harris, was undoubtedly the tool of great vested interests), the N. P. L. leader is nevertheless an autocrat.

"I believe," Mr. Harris declared, "that the N. P. L. program is good, but Townley and his lieutenants have not taught the people the fundamental principles of democratic organization. They are being vigorously opposed by the great business interests, and the people are confused, because they do not know whether or not Townley's plan is safe. My plan in going down there was first to learn what the farmers there were doing, and second to explain our political methods. I addressed 54 meetings. The people there were attracted by our methods, and the N. P. L. papers (there are 52) gave their readers to understand that they thought the Alberta farmers were blazing the political trail, which, if followed, would lead the farmers out of the wilderness of bankruptcy, poverty and misery, into the land of prosperity. My only hope is that the seed sown will take root and grow, and that in time the principles of the U. F. A. will be adopted by the farmers of America."

A motion by William Irvine, M.P. for East Calgary, declaring that the defeat of a Government measure should not be sufficient reason for the resignation of the Government unless followed by a vote of lack of confidence, was defeated in the Canadian House of Commons on February 12th, by 103 votes to 52. With one exception all of the farmer representatives voted for the motion, J. F. Johnston, of Last Mountain, the chief whip, voting against. The Government and Conservative members united in opposing the resolution. The motion was seconded by J. T. Shaw, M.P. for West Calgary. Premier King expressed strong opposition to the resolution.

The Provincial Secretary's Page

MEMBERSHIP DRIVES

The West Edmonton Constituency Association are making plans for a membership drive with the objective of enrolling at least 2,000 members before spring work opens up. The drive will be held from March 5 to 10.

Many Locals in the Province are carrying on membership drives, house to house canvasses, etc., for the purpose of regaining their former membership standing. Magrath has done more than this, the U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. Locals at Magrath together securing almost 300 members, the largest number in their history.

Teams were chosen to canvass the district, which was divided into two parts, and a date set for the close of the contest. The losing team, who lost by only two members, had to provide a dance and refreshments to all members on the winning side. This they did in liberal fashion. Much interest in the organization was aroused, in many cases among people not previously interested in the organization.

Another highly successful drive was put on by Nightingale Local, who increased their membership from 14 in 1922 to 50 for 1923. The losing team of canvassers are banqueting the winners.

Willowdale Local is among others who are expecting good results from drives. High Bank Local is among those who are allowing their members to pay only one dollar towards their fees, and raising the balance by entertainments.

Stronger Than Last Year

H. C. McDaniel, of Whitla, finds that the probabilities are that most of the Locals in his district will be stronger this year than last, in spite of the hard times.

Bee Hive Local do not ask their members to pay any membership fee for the Local, but take up a ten-cent collection at every meeting in order to cover the expenses of the Local.

At the annual meeting of Bancroft Local recently comprehensive plans were made for the year's work. It was decided to have a membership drive. A program for the year was drawn up, which will include the exchange of visits with neighboring Locals, and the securing of an extension library.

Red Willow Local have appointed committees to prepare answers to such questions as "What is the hope of regaining the full membership, and what method would you suggest to accomplish this?"

Obtained 150 per cent Increase

Shortly after the Corinth Local became aware that the U. F. A. membership for 1922 would show a decrease as compared with 1921, they organized a membership drive to cover their district. Through the combined and energetic efforts of their members, they increased their numbers from 13 to 34, which number they expect still further to increase.

OFFER TO SUPPLY FARM HELP

The C. P. R. have announced that they will obtain suitable farm help for farmers in Western Canada without any cost to the applicant. Applications will be filled for male and female help from Great Britain, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Switzerland and Norway. Farm-

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ity would practically double the debt of the Province.

The Attorney-General appealed to the Convention to place faith in the Government, and leave it to the Government to see how far they could go. He added: "I am not speaking lightly, but I do say that there is a possibility of this Government being faced with a program next year, as a result of certain resolutions that have been passed today, and perhaps this resolution, in which we may find it a very serious problem to carry on the Government at all for another year."

Markets Sensitive

Mr. Brownlee remarked that the markets of the world were very sensitive, and the Convention was being closely watched, because "those people know the very close relation that exists between this organization and the Government at Edmonton." He could give instances in which loan companies were preparing to withdraw from Alberta because they expected certain resolutions to be passed by the Convention. The Government hoped to devise some scheme that would be of great assistance to those in the northern half of the Province, but he would regret if the resolution, which "practically said that the Drought Relief Act should be extended over the whole of the Province", should carry. In the south he felt, it was essential that the Act should be continued to some extent. The Government was working on a refunding plan, and hoped to create an organization that would assist farmers in working out their position without wholesale bankruptcies, as nothing would hurt this country more than that news should go out of such wholesale bankruptcies.

Answering Mr. Hough, who asked for concrete reasons why the terms of the financial resolutions should not be carried out, Mr. Brownlee said he would be only too glad to take representatives of the committee into his confidence.

"Give the Government a chance," was the comment of P. B. Thomas of Cereal. Mr. Mangels thought it would be very unwise for the Government, representing the people, to relieve the mortgage companies of the responsibilities which are properly theirs.

The vote was then called for, and the resolution defeated by a considerable majority.

A resolution asking legislation to permit farmers to give banks chattel mortgages on growing crops, in order to finance spring and summer work, was voted down by the Convention.

THE UNITED FARM WOMEN OF ALBERTA IN CONVENTION.

(Continued from page 6)

courses of lectures on a large variety of subjects, mainly domestic science, pressing social questions of the day, emergency work, home nursing, etc. These lectures often developed into lecture demonstrations. Then there were short courses averaging in length about five days, in dressmaking, cooking and basketry, and Miss MacMillan announced during her address that the matter of instituting a short course in millinery was under consideration at the present time. There were fifty applications for sewing demonstrations on file. Great stress was laid on the importance of work done in connection with maintaining the health of the people of the Province. This particular branch had to do with instructions to parents regarding the proper feeding and clothing of children, and was much more concerned with preventative measures than curative ones, although both were part of the work.

Another important service in the Extension Department, she said, was the reference library, which was an excellent, up-to-date bureau providing first-hand information on a wide range of subjects of interest to women. Miss MacMillan explained that it was the wish and endeavor of the Extension Service to assist farm women in isolated districts, and urged all to feel free to write to the Department at any time asking for information.

In the afternoon, delegates dispersed to the various constituency meetings where the U.F.W.A. directors for 1923 were elected. Appreciation of the innovation in having directors' reports given at these separate constituency meetings was expressed by many delegates.

Legal Status of Women

Thursday afternoon was devoted to an intensive study of the legal status of women. Hon. J. E. Brownlee, Geo. Ross, K.C., Mrs. B. F. Kiser, convenor of the U.F.W.A. Legislative Committee, Mrs. Henrietta Muir Edwards, National Convenor of the Committee on Laws Affecting Women for the National Council of Women, and Mrs. L. C. McKin-

CO-OPERATIVE CATTLE-SELLING

Commences March 8th--Calgary and Edmonton

Co-operative Shipping provided a means for getting farmers' cattle onto the central markets. CO-OPERATIVE SELLING provides a means for taking charge of cattle when received at central markets, sorting and handling them at cost for the benefit of the producer until sold.

The two principal reasons for the plan are that cattle bring more money when sorted into even car lots; and that the majority of our cattle cannot be absorbed by primary markets and have to be taken on to other markets east and south. This work is now being done, not by traders for a profit, but by a co-operative organization for the benefit of producers.

Features of the Plan

Cattle to be consigned to Co-operative Sales Department.

Valuation of cattle at current prices when received.

Participation certificates issued showing valuation.

Advance to shippers if desired of 70 per cent of valuation.

Distribution of net proceeds of sale among shippers at close of each weekly period, upon basis of respective valuations of their cattle.

Handling cattle at cost.

After the cattle are valued and weighed up the Co-operative Sales Department will sort and sell them to best advantage, sending each class of cattle to whatever market offers the best prospects for satisfactory sale.

IF YOU ARE SHIPPING CO-OPERATIVELY—Co-operative selling is the logical step.

IF YOU CAN SHIP A WHOLE CAR YOURSELF you can get even more benefit out of Co-operative selling than the man who ships a smaller number. Sale of your cattle can be improved by judicious sorting and direction of animals to best markets.

IF YOU HAVE BEEN SELLING TO COUNTRY DROVERS AND DEALERS, don't do it any more. You cannot afford to miss the opportunities for better prices through Co-operative shipping and Co-operative selling.

UNITED GRAIN GROWERS will continue to handle cattle not consigned for co-operative selling as formerly. To get the advantage of co-operative selling cattle must be so designated before they are offered for sale. Be sure to get particulars of how to consign your cattle for co-operative selling.



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Address _____

U. F. A.

Use this
Coupon to

get the circular that tells all about Co-operative Selling and how to consign your cattle to get the benefit of the new plan.

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ney, formerly a member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly, were present and took part in the discussion. Mrs. B. F. Kiser gave her report on the Legal Status of Women, outlining comprehensively the laws of the Province affecting women, placing special emphasis on the Intestate Successions Act, the Ultimate Heir Act, the Mothers' Allowance Act, an act passed at the last session of the legislature Respecting the Rights and Property of Married Women, Minimum Wage Act and the Jury Act.

Immediately following Mrs. Kiser's report, Mr. Ross addressed the Convention on "Some Legal Disabilities of Women." Mr. Ross' address was unquestionably one of the outstanding events of the Convention. He discussed, first, inequalities of divorce, in the case of void marriages, alimony in the event of separation, and, secondly, property inequalities. Mr. Ross' explanation of "Community property laws" claimed the intense interest of the delegates. At the conclusion of his address he was plied with questions. The Convention expressed its appreciation by a very hearty vote of thanks.

Community of Interests

The Convention endorsed a resolution setting forth that the Dower Act does not adequately protect the rights of the wife in respect to real property in the possession of her husband; and requesting the Provincial Government to establish by law the principle of "Community of Interests" between husband and wife in respect to all real property acquired by them as the result of their common labor and effort, this to be recognized in coverture, in separation, and upon the death of either party. The resolution proposed "that the husband should have the management of the community property, but be restricted as to selling or mortgaging real estate or leasing same for more than one year without the concurrence of his wife."

Prohibition

Unalterable opposition to any policy of Government sale of liquor for beverage purposes was expressed in a resolution which called upon the membership to "do all in their power to discourage the idea of so-called Government control of the liquor traffic." Appreciation of, and satisfaction with the attitude of the Attorney General's Department on liquor law enforcement was also expressed and Locals throughout the Province were urged to assist in this matter and to carry on a campaign of education in favor of prohibition among children and adults. Any weakening of the present Liquor Act, it was stated, would be deplored.

A resolution asking that the Mothers' Pension Act be amended to include other mothers than widows at the discretion of the Attorney General was considered favorably by the Convention, but in view of the very great need for rigid economy in the administration of the Government, the resolution was tabled. A resolution asking that the rights of Citizenship be extended to Indians was also tabled.

The question of an amendment to the Criminal Code whereby restriction against giving information regarding the control of conception would be deleted was discussed at the Convention of 1922. Mrs. Stanley Roner, of Mirror, the mover of the resolution, read a paper on the subject at that time. At the request of the 1923 Convention, Mrs. Emilie O. Briggs, of Magrath, read a paper setting forth the negative argument. The resolution was tabled, after a request had been expressed by the Convention that Mrs. Briggs' paper be circulated to the U.F.W.A. Locals.

Two resolutions of a constitutional character were considered and defeated. One of these asked that the U.F.W.A. fee be reduced to \$1.00 with Local fees; the other recommended that the U.F.W.A. do not vote for the U.F.A. Executive.

Municipal Franchise

The Friday afternoon session was a busy one, but the program was carefully handled, with the result that the Convention closed on schedule time. Two resolutions recommending the extension of the municipal franchise to women in the case of debenture by-laws and herd law were referred to the Municipalities convention for consideration. Hon. R. G. Reid, Minister of Health and Municipalities, was present at this time, and at the request of the delegates spoke briefly on the question of the status of women in municipal affairs.

Greetings were heard at this time from Mrs. Corse, President of the Labor Women's League. Mrs. Newhall, President of the Consumers' League, also addressed the Convention.

Marketing of Farm By-Products

Mrs. H. E. G. H. Scholefield, Convenor of the Committee on Marketing, gave a very practical report on the marketing of farm by-products. Her remarks on the selling of eggs and the co-operative selling of poultry were especially valuable. A resolution on

marketing of butter was introduced by the U.F.W.A. Board and carried as follows:

"Resolved that all butter offered for sale shall have the name of the maker plainly written, printed or stamped on the paper wrapper, and that the proprietors of all stores or other places of business offering butter for sale be compelled to provide a sanitary place suitable for the storage of such butter."

It was pointed out that this resolution was passed by the Convention last year and presented to the Government. The Minister of Agriculture was of the opinion that this would be desirable if it could be worked out. He thought, however, it would be difficult to get all farmers to do this. The Board was of the opinion that the resolution was quite practicable and would prove highly advantageous and therefore recommended that the Convention re-affirm their stand on the matter.

Mrs. R. Price, of Stettler, had prepared a very careful report on the question of immigration, dealing extensively with the plan adopted by the Saskatchewan Government of placing immigrant girls in farm homes and keeping in close personal touch with them until they were accustomed to the customs of the country and were in a position to be responsible for their own well-being. The report dealt also with the position of the Canadian Colonization Association and its connection, or lack of connection, with the Federal and Provincial Governments.

Mrs. Price was unable to be present at the Convention and her report was read by Mrs. E. F. Kiser.

Best Immigration Policy

Speaking of the statement of the President of the Association that "What Canada needs today, as she never needed before, is a large army of agricultural workers," Mrs. Price affirmed that "If Canada needs such an army, as we believe she does, the best way to induce them to come to our country is to make conditions satisfactory for those who are already toiling on the farms. Help us to get a satisfactory system of marketing our grain and stock so that there is a little profit left after the expenses of production are paid. Give us a further decrease in freight rates, lessen the tariff rates, give us a credit system adapted to financing agricultural production, then we can hold the population we have. In South Australia, where they have a state bank, the farmers can get long term credits at a 4 per cent. rate. Letters from satisfied, contented settlers to other lands will do more to increase our population than all the aggressive immigration policies that can be suggested."

Arbitration and War

A letter was received from the U.F.W.M. enclosing resolutions of a Federal nature from the Manitoba Convention and requesting that these be presented for endorsement. The following was adopted:

"Whereas the United Farm Women of Alberta in Convention assembled, view, with anxious alarm the rumors that are reaching us of another war;

"And whereas we as women and mothers have sacrificed our sons, our brothers and our fathers in the Great War, and our hearts are still grieving from losses of loved ones and our memories still retain vivid recollections of that terrible time;

"Therefore the United Farm Women of Alberta in Convention assembled desire to place ourselves on record as being fervently and earnestly opposed to international disputes being settled by warfare, and would strongly recommend that in this age of civilization, international disputes be settled by arbitration."

With reference to the proposal of the Minister of the Interior, to create an advisory council on immigration composed of one man and woman from each Province, the Convention urged the Provincial Government to take into serious consideration the appointment of a woman who is conversant with rural conditions. The resolution on this question was also from the Manitoba Convention.

The Convention recorded itself in favor of legislation requiring that the wife's signature be necessary in order that a deed or mortgage be legal to the transfer of all land acquired or improved by the joint labor of both. Sanction was also given to a recommendation that it be made compulsory to mark the percentage of wool contained in all goods manufactured, imported or offered for sale.

The Women's Convention then closed with the national anthem.

At the joint evening session with the U.F.A., resolutions adopted by the U.F.W.A. Convention, eight in number, were presented to the U.F.A. Convention by Mrs. W. Ross, chairman of the U.F.W.A. Resolutions Committee, and adopted.

STUDIES IN CITIZENSHIP

A series of pamphlets has been prepared by John D. Hunt, Edmonton, for the use particularly of U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Locals, Community Leagues, and similar institutions. They are so designed as to provide the frame-work for discussions and addresses on Citizenship. The subject is approached from many angles in ways that are sure to be provocative of thought and interest. Mr. Hunt is well-known as clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and the author of a number of thought-provoking books.

The pamphlets are sold by the author at ten cents each; but, says a circular accompanying the full set: "The object of the undertaking, however, is not to make money, but to get people to use the long winter evenings to advantage, to divert the minds of the discouraged from their worries to something more pleasant and worth while. If, therefore, the treasury or pocket is empty, report the condition, state what subject is wanted, and the order will be filled."

The following are the titles of the pamphlets:

1. The Community League—A suggestive program for a whole season.
2. Man Power—How man might accomplish much more than he does.
3. The Common Good—Why human laws are necessary.
4. Patriotism, Democracy and Education—The necessity for clear ideas as to what these terms mean.
5. Proportional Representation—What it is, and how it works.
6. Liberty as to Conduct and Property—The line between personal liberty and government regulation.
7. Wanted: Leaders—Leadership the great need of the day.
8. The Finding of the Northwest—Early discoveries.
9. The Moving Picture—Its influence for good or evil.
10. The House of Life—A plea for a wider outlook.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON LAKE GRAIN RATES

By Order-in-Council of the Dominion Government, dated January 17, 1923, provision was made for a Royal Commission

1. To enquire into the relations and arrangements between the steamship companies and interests amalgamated or combining for the purposes of operating or arranging for the transportation and insurance of grain upon vessels traversing the said Great Lakes;

2. To enquire into the alleged combine of shipping interests in its efforts to dominate and control the freight rates and terms under which grain has to be carried from the harbors of Fort William and Port Arthur;

3. To enquire into the comparative freight rates on grain vessels traversing the Great Lakes between Duluth, Milwaukee and Chicago to Eastern Lake ports, as compared with prevailing freight rates on grain to Eastern lake ports in vessels dominated, controlled or fixed by the alleged combination of interests controlling Canadian lake shipping sailing from Port Arthur and Fort William to Eastern ports.

The Commission in this matter will begin its sittings in Winnipeg on Monday, February 12, at 10 a.m., in the City Hall. The Secretary of the Commission is W.T.R. Preston, who may be addressed at the Fort Garry Hotel, Winnipeg. Special Counsel appointed to assist the Commission in its investigation is H. J. Symington, K. C., of Winnipeg.

The commission is now in session. On February 14th James Stewart, who was called upon to give evidence, expressed the opinion that Canadian coastal laws should be suspended "until such time as owners of Canadian vessels are disciplined by competitive rates."

BENEFIT OF ORGANIZATION

Elmora Local recently asked several members to answer the question: "Is the U.F.A. a benefit to the farmers in this district?" The discussion aroused much enthusiasm, and the consensus of opinion was that all farmers benefited through the organization, indirectly if not directly. At the same meeting, a committee was appointed to confer with representatives of neighboring Locals as to the possibility of co-operative buying and selling.

During the Convention Mrs. R. Price, of Stettler U.F.W.A., Director for Red Deer Constituency, was suddenly called home on account of the illness of her son, who had to undergo an operation for appendicitis. The operation was successful and the boy is now convalescing. Mrs. Price wishes to express her deep appreciation to the U.F.W.A. delegates for the beautiful flowers they sent at that time.

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A DIARY OF THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

(Continued from page 5)

Co-operation, Not Amalgamation

At Wednesday evening's session George Latham, of the Alberta Federation of Labor, and George Edwards, vice-president of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, spoke briefly as fraternal delegates, and A. E. Ottewell, director of the Department of Extension, University of Alberta, also gave a short address. Mr. Latham congratulated the U.F.A. on its decision against the so-called "broadening out" policy. It would be a fatal mistake, he said, for labor and the farmers to amalgamate forces, as both the U.F.A. and the labor people recognized, but they had got to co-operate, and to decide, in view of forthcoming redistribution, which seats should be contested by farmers and which by labor. These two groups represented the great bulk of the common people. A very enjoyable entertainment was given as the first item on the evening program, A. E. Peterson of Frog Lake giving a violin solo; N. F. McKinley of Three Hills reciting Part I of "It Beats the Devil"; L. M. Gaetz giving a vocal solo, and Mr. Evans of Carnforth Local singing Scotch songs. An entertainment was also given before the opening of Thursday evening's session.

Thursday was largely devoted to the discussion of the questions of feed and seed grain relief, organization Western grain route, and resolutions on banking and long term loans.

Election of Executive

George Bevington of Winterburn, C. H. Harris of Oyen and H. C. McDaniel of Whiteman were elected as the Executive Committee, after a motion had been carried that all positions on the Executive be declared vacant. The other nominees were: C. H. Axelson, Brutus; G. L. Carpender, Irricana; R. O. German, Foreman; W. J. Jackman, Bremner; Frank Leavitt, Glenwoodville; Stephen Lunn, Pincher Creek; William Oliver, Lethbridge; S. S. Sears, Nanton; Rice Sheppard, South Edmonton; C. H. Stevens, Sunnibend; W. D. Trego, Gleichen; J. P. Watson, Chinook. The following were nominated, but withdrew: F. W. Smith, Sedgewick; H. Mackenzie, Sedgewick; W. F. Bredin, Clairmont; Thos. Moore, Claresholm; P. I. Jibbie, Claresholm; Col. C. Robinson, Munson; A. R. Brown, Westlock; J. L. Smith, Clivale; F. H. Herbert, Strathcona.

Western Grain Route

A lengthy resolution, urging the Directors to make representations to the Dominion Government to increase facilities for handling grain at Vancouver; petitioning the Provincial Government to investigate the matter, and if feasible to co-operate with the British Columbia Government in arranging adequate facilities for the handling of Alberta grain at Pacific ports; and also demanding the abolition of the existing discrimination between the east-bound and west-bound freight rates, was adopted unanimously by the Convention. A resolution to similar effect, which expressed the opinion that proper storage, grading and elevator facilities should be established at Edmonton, was also carried.

Secretaries' Conferences

The following resolution on Secretaries' Conferences, submitted by the Central Board, was adopted after discussion, by a large majority:

"Whereas we believe that the Secretaries' Conference is valuable in promoting an exchange of ideas between the secretaries of the Locals, to their mutual benefit in carrying on the work in their own localities, and also tends to bring about a closer touch and a better understanding between the Secretaries and the Central Organization, and

"Whereas many secretaries have expressed a wish that such Conference be made an annual affair and previous Secretaries' Conferences have expressed themselves as favorable to the idea;

"Therefore be it resolved that two Secretaries' Conferences be held each year, one in the north and one in the south at times most suitable to the majority of the secretaries; actual date to be set by the Executive. These conferences to be called, not for the discussion of matters of policy for the Organization, but primarily for the exchange of ideas for the successful carrying on of the Locals."

H. Higginbotham, Provincial Secretary, pointed out that the object of the Secretaries' Conferences was to discuss, not matters of policy, but the means by which the strength of the Locals might be built up. It was possible, of course, to over-organize. Mr. Young of Millet expressed the opinion that the conference should be held alternately at Calgary and Edmonton. There never was a time, he said, when the secretaries needed to be more alive than the present. In the past, said a delegate, too much time had been allotted to the U.G.G. Mr. Higginbotham pointed out that the U.G.G. had

formerly contributed to the cost of the conferences.

The U. F. A."

A resolution by the Lotus District Association, in reference to "The U.F.A.", was carried in amended form after considerable discussion. The resolution originally asked that the paper be issued weekly, and that four pages be provided for an open forum, an extra assessment of \$1 per member being levied to defray the extra expense. The editor stated that good material on hand sufficient to fill many issues could not be used at present owing to lack of space, but that contributions from members in various parts of the Province were being used wherever possible. If an open forum were instituted under present conditions, not more than 10 to 20 per cent of the letters sent in could be used. It would be necessary to make a selection from these, and the choice would be dependent upon some person's judgment, as it is at present. The Convention voted against the proposed increase of the levy by \$1, and also against the proposal to devote four pages to an open forum, which would necessitate considerable extra expense. The resolution was adopted finally in the following form:

"Whereas the United Farmers of Alberta have already made a creditable beginning by publishing our official paper, 'The U.F.A.', which we believe is serving a very good purpose, but we firmly believe that still greater and better service can be rendered to individual members, as well as the movement as a whole, if more space were utilized for educational articles, fully realizing that it is upon a true knowledge on economic, social and moral laws that the progress of our movement depends, we therefore respectfully suggest that instructive articles on economics, sociology, history, forms of organization, marketing and co-operation be published."

Another resolution requested "The U.F.A." to devote some space to world affairs, in view of the fact that the Canadian farmers' economic betterment is bound up with that of the rest of the civilized world. Another, adopted by the Convention, from Lotus Local, asked that education in the principles of industrial group organization be carried on.

During the discussion the opinion was expressed that even as a paper published only twice every month, "The U. F. A." had been insufficiently read by the membership. The paper was further discussed on Friday, when a resolution from Islay District Association, proposing that the control of the paper be placed in the hands of an independent committee to be elected by the Convention, was lost. Col. Robinson remarking that having elected one Central Board to be responsible for the Association, to elect another would be "over-organizing." Another resolution, asking that "The U.F.A." publish reports of the proceedings in the Alberta Legislature, and a record of votes taken in the Assembly, was lost by unanimous vote after it had been pointed out that present finances would not permit of the editor spending much time in Edmonton or a correspondent being paid. Care had been taken, however, that all such news published in the paper was absolutely accurate. On the indemnity question no vote was recorded, the decision having been made merely upon a call for "Ayes" and "Noes."

Mrs. Parlby Sees Brighter Prospects

At the close of the afternoon session G. F. Chipman, editor of the Grain Growers' Guide, addressed the Convention on a number of matters concerning the Guide. On Thursday evening, following the announcement of the election of the Directors for 1923, short addresses were given by Prof. McGibbon of the University of Alberta, on the St. Lawrence Deep Waterways project, and by Hon. Irene Parlby, while the resolutions on the subject of banking and credit and long term loans, reported elsewhere, were voted on after discussion. Mrs. Parlby remarked that in spite of hard times one crop had never failed—the crop of resolutions at the U.F.A. Convention. She thought that concentration on a few vital subjects would bring the best results. The farmers had not yet learned to co-operate, and had to begin as a child did, by first learning to creep. The fact that it was necessary to form a compulsory Wheat Board showed that the farmers were not yet able to co-operate without the Government telling them to do so. Mrs. Parlby said that she believed that in spite of present hard conditions, there was a streak of blue sky overhead, and hope of the future.

Political Organization

The unwavering determination of the organized farmers to retain their democratic form of organization, in political as well as in all other affairs, was demonstrated when the Convention, by unanimous vote, and without discussion, adopted on Friday morning a resolution originally passed by the Federal Constituency Associations of Macleod, East and West Calgary and Red Deer, endorsing the action of the U.F.A. elected members at the Winnipeg Conference. The resolution declared that it would be a violation of the

principles upon which the U.F.A. movement is founded for any legislative member of the U.F.A. to endorse or recognize the authority of any central committee, organized by elected farmer representatives, for the purpose of exercising control over the political activities of the electorate. This resolution was printed in full in the issue of "The U.F.A." of December 1st, 1922. The Convention adopted unanimously a resolution expressing adherence to the principles of economic group organization and co-operation between economic groups, and demanded that elected members stand firm against amalgamation with any political party or the formation of a new political party. In the opinion of the chair, another resolution, urging that any members amalgamating with any of the old parties should be recalled, was the business of the Constituency Associations, and it was not voted upon.

Livestock Pool

After an address by C. Rice-Jones, general manager of the United Grain Growers, Ltd., on the livestock pool, of which details have been given in a former issue of "The U.F.A.", a resolution expressing approval of the pooling plan as outlined by the U.G.G., was adopted. Mr. Rice-Jones declared that there could be nothing more important to the development of the industry of agriculture than the adoption of the most efficient methods of marketing. Co-operative shipping had first been undertaken by the farmers' commercial company in Alberta, and had since spread over the Dominion and over the continent. Cattle could only be marketed to best advantage in car lots. Selling to best advantage had not always been possible in the past because the farmers had not granted control over their stock. "The demand," said Mr. Rice-Jones, "and consequently the best prices, do not often exist on any one market for all classes of cattle on any given day." Referring to the Western route for grain, the speaker said that whatever might be the individual view of any member of the company's board, as a company they were prepared to get behind any plan that the Convention might decide upon. The Convention later requested the Provincial Government to make a thorough investigation into successful co-operative marketing associations for farm products in the United States, with a view to making practical use of this information in Alberta.

Another resolution, in line with the opinion previously expressed by the Canadian Council of Agriculture, asked that the maximum weight of select bacon hogs be increased from 210 to 220 pounds; that a new class be established to be known as heavy selects, to include good bacon hogs weighing from 220 to 250 pounds, at a premium of 5 per cent; and that a system of outward inspection from packing plants should be established.

Seed Grain and Feed Relief

With only one or two votes against, a resolution was carried asking the Federal Government to provide the necessary seed grain for new land or land under summer fallow, and feed for the necessary horsepower, so distributing the responsibility over the whole Dominion. Should the Dominion not agree to this the Provincial Government was asked to make the necessary provision. The municipal machinery to be used as the means of distribution in either event. The resolution also declared that any public funds allocated for immigration propaganda could more properly and usefully be used to enable farmers in the drought area to combat the adverse conditions against which they have been struggling, and to assist them to remain on the land. On recommendation of the order of business committee, it was decided that resolutions not dealt with before the close of the Convention should be handled in the following way: Those relating to municipal law, taxation and assessments to be referred to the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts; those relating to educational and school matters to be referred to the School Trustees' Association; those relating to hall insurance to be referred to the Hall Insurance Board; those relating to dairying to be referred to the Alberta Dairy Producers; those relating to Provincial railways to be referred to the Minister of Railways, Hon. V. W. Smith.

A resolution was carried asking the U.F.A. Executive to present to all Locals some truly co-operative system for the marketing of all farm products; and that the U.G.G. be approached with a view to co-operation in this matter.

Many important resolutions were dealt with at the concluding session on Friday evening. The Convention expressed disapproval of the Western Canada Colonization scheme, and asked the Government not to give this association any financial support; asked the Federal Government to co-operate with the Provincial Government in securing cleaner seed from seed houses; appointed a special committee, as follows, to investigate the question of light railways as feeders to trunk lines, and to report to the

Convention in 1924: C. S. Stevens, Sunnibend, maintenance and operation; T. J. Harris, Mellowdale, capital charges, and T. W. Garde, Woodlands, taxation for refunding of debt.

The resolution submitted by Stettler Provincial Constituency Association, calling for the consolidation of membership fees, including the fees of Federal and Provincial Constituency Associations, was defeated by a considerable majority. Mr. German, who supported the resolution, said that it was absolutely necessary to keep up the membership of the Provincial Constituency Associations, if the elected members were to be held responsible to democratic organizations in their constituencies. One or two delegates spoke in opposition to the principle of the resolution, while others thought that the time for the proposed action had not yet arrived.

Resolutions from U.F.W.A. Convention
Mrs. Winnifred Ross of Millet presented a number of resolutions passed at the U.F.W.A. Convention, all of which were endorsed by the main Convention. The Provincial Government was asked to make the furnishing of monthly reports by teachers compulsory; the action of the last Convention in the matter of community interest between husband and wife was re-affirmed; legislation to provide that the name of the maker of butter offered for sale shall be plainly printed, written or stamped on the wrapper, was asked; the Provincial Government was urged, in making its recommendation of a woman to the proposed Dominion Advisory Commission on Immigration, to take into serious consideration a woman conversant with rural conditions; legislation was asked to provide that all woolen materials and knitted goods manufactured in Canada or imported for sale in Canada be so marked as to indicate the percentage of virgin wool which they contained. In another resolution the rumors of another war were viewed with alarm, and it was recommended that international disputes should be settled by arbitration.

Oppose Government Sale

After a brief discussion the Convention adopted by an overwhelming majority a resolution from the U.F.W.A. Convention expressing unanimous opposition to Government sale of liquor for beverage purposes, and deprecating any weakening of the present Alberta Liquor Act. The resolution expressed appreciation of the attitude of the Attorney General's Department on the subject of law enforcement, and appealed for co-operation of the Locals and of the public in this matter.

A resolution from South Edmonton Constituency Association, asking that in the forthcoming Provincial re-distribution, no rural territory shall be included in any town or city which is entitled to elect one or more members, was carried. A proposal that the number of members should be reduced to forty was defeated, speakers pointing out that already some of these constituencies are so large that the elected members can only visit all their territory at great expense. This was of lesser importance when elected members did not consider it a duty to visit their constituencies except on the eve of an election, but the U.F.A. members were giving constant attention to public affairs.

Resolutions Summarized

Other resolutions dealt with are briefly summarized below:

Legislation making the recall legally enforceable was asked of the Provincial members. The Government was asked to make the Drought Relief Commissioner the official assignee under the Bankruptcy Act in the rural parts of the Province. A resolution proposing to fix the salaries of members of the legislature by statutory provision, this salary to cover all the services a member is expected to render during the year, including the regular session, was discussed. The Convention appeared to be in favor of the principle of the resolution, but considerable differences existed as to the wording of the various clauses. The resolution was tabled. Another resolution asked that a resident doctor be placed in rural hospitals so that operations might be performed irrespective of the financial position of the patients.

A resolution from Egremont District Association, asking the Government to establish a Provincial Hansard, was tabled. The Convention carried by a large majority a resolution dealing with the manner of arranging the pool rate for future Conventions.

A telegram from the Edmonton City Council, extending an invitation to the Association to convene in Edmonton next year, was read by the Secretary, and the Central Board authorized to deal with the matter.

Ask Inquiry into Charges

The Convention requested the Provincial Government to appoint a committee of the Assembly to investigate the charges made by members of the Labor party that during the Edmonton strike women were mishandled by the A. P. P., and that police were used to break the strike. The Government was asked to retain in the Alberta civil service

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THE GOVERNMENTS of the countries above mentioned have expressed their willingness to aid the emigration of this class of their peoples. In order to fill such applications satisfactorily and bring the help to the farmer at the proper time and with a clear understanding of the requirements and obligations of each, a printed "Application for Help" form has been prepared which can be obtained from any C.P.R. Station Agent or offices listed below.

The Company will make no charge to the farmer for this service nor will the farmer be required to make any cash advance whatsoever towards the travelling expenses of his help to the nearest railway station. The information necessarily asked for in these application forms, which will be held in strictest confidence, covers the following points:—the kind of help required—male or female—married or unmarried; date required and for how long; nationality desired; monthly wages offered; kind of work offered, etc.

WINNIPEG.—T. S. Acheson, General Agricultural Agent, C.P.R.

WINNIPEG.—John Sweeting, Industrial Agent, C.P.R.

SASKATOON.—W. J. Gerow, Land Agent, C.P.R.

EDMONTON.—J. Miller, Land Agent, C.P.R.

CALGARY.—M. E. Thornton, Supt. Colonization, C.P.R.

VANCOUVER.—E. J. Semmens, Trav. Industrial Agent, C.P.R.

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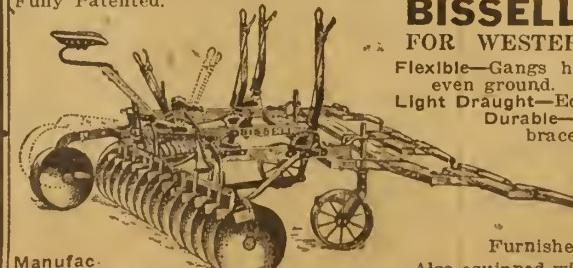
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all officials who are giving efficient service, and to make efficiency and not political affiliations the first consideration.

Support of the Provincial Government in all curtailment of expenditure was pledged in a resolution received from Craigmyle District Association, and the voting of a sessional indemnity to a member who was absent during the session was condemned. More strict enforcement of the law prohibiting glaring headlights on automobiles was asked.

Before adjournment the Convention passed hearty votes of thanks to the citizens of Calgary for their services to the Convention and for the use of the hall, and to the G. W. V. A. for their services during the Convention. Thanks were also extended to the press, the chairmen and the entertainers. The Convention adjourned with the singing of "God Save the King."

**A PLAN TO ENABLE LOCALS TO
 HELP THEMSELVES**

(Continued from page 1)

difficult. Let them be held in the comparatively slack season, following seeding operations, and staged at one of the many popular summer resorts with which Red Deer is blessed so bountifully. In a quiet and restful atmosphere the farming community could enjoy a couple of days of the rest and relaxation they so sorely need and surely deserve. Between bathing and fishing activities the younger people could be coached in the ethics of junior work. U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. problems could be discussed under leisurely conditions and speakers of repute would have an unexpected opportunity to go into detail regarding the work and needs of the organization. In short these rallies could be made a miniature convention on the Chautauqua order. It is suggested that the necessary arrangements be made by the Provincial Constituency Boards, acting in conjunction with the U. F. A. Director to avoid a conflict of dates.

No. 4—FRATERNAL DELEGATES

It was thought advisable to suggest that each Provincial Constituency Association should invite fraternal delegates, from the other Provincial Constituency Associations within Red Deer, to the Annual Constituency Conventions, when held.

No. 5—CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS

The U. F. A. Director was requested to investigate, during the year, the most successful co-operative enterprises in the constituency, with a view to the encouragement and development of co-operation in other districts. The writer feels that a funding of all available information would be very beneficial and no opportunity will be lost in this respect. It is probable that a report regarding this will be given during the year.

CONCLUSION

It is obvious that the success or failure of all or any part of the program outlined above is in the hands of the Locals themselves. Simultaneously with this publication a bulletin and questionnaire is being sent out to all Locals in Red Deer, with the idea of finding out what response will be given to the suggestions. In carrying out any part of this program the work must be voluntary and gratis. Also, no opportunity should be overlooked on any occasion to reinstate members who are now in arrears and to enroll every possible new member. Let each Local strive to be on the very crest of the incoming membership tide.

COURSE IN RURAL LEADERSHIP

A Short Course in Rural Leadership will be held at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, from March 12 to 18, inclusive. The course is being arranged at the request of various U.F.A. Locals and other organizations, by the Department of Extension and the College of Agriculture of the University.

The subjects of the lectures include: The Banks and Agricultural Credits; Economics of a World Market; Co-operative Credit Associations Abroad; Future Trading and the Middleman; Agricultural Credit Legislation in Canada; Transportation Factor; Debt Legislation and Government Relief; Co-operative Marketing; Government Participation and Co-operative Self-help; Compulsory and Voluntary Pools; Insect Pests; Crop Improvement; Soil Types and Soil Survey; Present Outlook for the Dairy Industry; Laying out the Farm Plant; Winter Feeding Problems; Forage Crops and Silage; Labor Saving Devices; Present Outlook for Agriculture; Alberta's Banking Situation; Quebec, Yesterday and Today; Education and Self-Determination; Civilization and the Christian Ideal. The lecturers will include Dean Howes, President Tory, H. S. Patton, Prof. Cutler, Prof. McGregor Smith, Prof. Wyatt and Prof. McGibbon, of the University. Premier Greenfield, Hon. Mr. Hoadley and Hon. Mr. Baker will also give addresses.

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PURE-BRED BROWN LEGHORN COCKERELS, rose comb, \$1.50 each. Apply A. McCready, Erskine, Alta.

CHOICE PURE-BRED ROSE COMB WHITE Wyandotte cockerels, \$2.00 each, three for \$5.00, five for \$8.00. L. H. Newville, Wetaskiwin, Alta.

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEY TOMS from imported 40 lb. stock, \$8.00. Also pure-bred Toulouse geese, \$5.00; ganders \$6.00. Mrs. Ed. Walker, Fort Saskatchewan, Alta.

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS — PROF. Herner's trap nested laying strain. Hatched from eggs secured this summer. Vigorous birds, \$3 each, two for \$5 f.o.b. Woodhouse. M. S. Weatherhead, Woodhouse, Alta.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS are inserted in this section for three cents per word per insertion. Count each initial as a full word, also count each set of four figures as a full word, as for example, "A. J. Smith has 2,000 bushels of oats for sale" contains 10 words. Be sure to give your correct name and address. Do not have any replies sent to U.F.A. Central Office. Name and address will be counted as part of the advertisement and must be paid for at the same rate. All advertisements will be classified under the heading which applies most nearly to the article advertised. Orders for classified advertisements must be accompanied by cash, and must reach us at least eight days in advance of dates of publication, which are the 1st and 15th of each month. Cancellations must also reach us eight days in advance.

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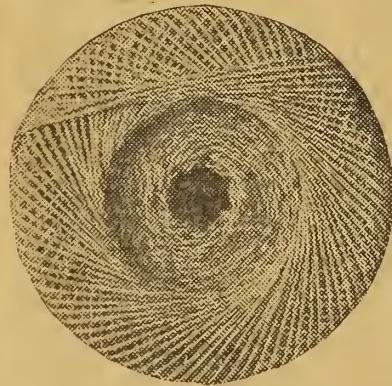


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